

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CANBER 06482 290736Z

17-12
ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-20 RSC-01

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 L-03 PRS-01 DRC-01 /071 W
----- 110340

R 290711Z NOV 73
FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2082
INFO CNO WASHDC
COMNAVTELCOM WASHDC
CINCPAC
CINCPACREP CANBERRA AS

C O N F I D E N T I A L CANBERRA 6482

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP, MARR, AS, US
SUBJ: DEFENSE MINISTER BARNARD'S VISIT TO WASH

REF: CANBERRA 5949

1. EMBASSY INFORMED BY ADOD OFFICIAL THAT DEFMIN BARNARD HAS NOW INSTRUCTED AMBASSADOR PLIMSOLL TO ACCEPT INVITATION TO VISIT WASH. FROM JAN 7 THROUGH 11. (BARNARD TOLD AMBASSADOR HE WOULD PROBABLY ARRIVE JAN 4.) ACCORDING TO THIS OFFICER, BARNARD HAS LIKEWISE ACCEPTED INVITATION TO MEET SECRETARY OF DEFENSE SCHLESINGER ON JAN 9 AND WILL BE PREPARED TO MEET WITH THE APPROPRIATE USG DEPARTMENT HEAD ON JAN 11 TO CONCLUDE IN A FORMAL WAY MATTERS UNDER NEGOTIATION WITH REGARD TO NORTHWEST CAPE STATION.

2. FROM CONVERSATIONS WITH ADOD OFFICIALS IN PAST FEW DAYS, WE GATHER FIRST ASSISTANT SECRETARY PRITCHETT PLANS TO BE IN WASHINGTON TOWARD END OF DEC OR EARLY JAN IN ORDER TO IRON OUT MATTERS REMAINING BEFORE BARNARD'S VISIT. PRITCHETT'S DEPARTURE FROM CANBERRA HAS NOT BEEN DECIDED
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AT THE MOMENT ALTHOUGH IT COULD BE AS EARLY AS DEC 26

OR AS LATE AS DEC 31. WE ALSO INFORMED THAT BARNARD WILL EXPECT TO SPEND JAN 7 AND 8 PRIMARILY IN CONSULTATIONS WITH AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY STAFF AND PRITCHETT ON NORTHWEST CAPE NEGOTIATIONS.

3. WE HAVE INDICATED SOME CONCERN TO ADOD OFFICIALS HERE AT SHORTNESS OF TIME IN WHICH TO RESOLVE OUTSTANDING MATTERS IN VIEW OF CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR VACATION TIMES. THEY APPEAR UNDERSTAND TIME PRESSURE INVOLVED AND HAVE TOLD US THAT INSTRUCTIONS TO AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY WASH. WERE SENT ON NOV 27 WITH REGARD TO RAISING POINTS OF NEGOTIATION WITH USG OFFICIALS. EMBASSY UNABLE AT THIS TIME TO OBTAIN ANY DETAILED READING ON WHAT GOA'S POSITION WILL BE ON ANY GIVEN ISSUE ALTHOUGH WE EXPECT WE MAY BE ABLE TO LEARN MORE WITHIN NEXT WEEK OR SO. IN MEANTIME, WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING ANY INFORMATION ON THESE NEGOTIATIONS WHICH DEPT BELIEVES WOULD BE USEFUL FOR US TO KNOW.

4. WE ARE ALSO IN CONTACT WITH ADOD ABOUT REAR ADMIRAL BOYES', NAVCOMTELCOM WASHDC VISIT TO NWC FROM DEC 12 THROUGH 14 AND CANBERRA ON DEC 15. WE ARE INFORMED THAT COMMODORE SWAN WHO IS SEIZED WITH PROBLEM OF RAN STAFFING AT NWC WILL ACCOMPANY ADMIRAL DURING HIS VISIT THERE AND RETURN WITH THE ADMIRAL TO CANBERRA ON DEC 15. WE ARE ARRANGING APPROPRIATE MEETING WITH ADOD AND DFA OFFICIALS AND ADMIRAL BOYES ON THAT DAY. NOTE THAT ACCESS OF RAN PERSONNEL TO USN COMMISSARY AND CLUB IS SEEN BY RAN AS SERIOUS PROBLEM WHICH THEY WILL EXPECT TO DISCUSS WITH BOYES.
GREEN

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